

Town of Hanson
542 Liberty Street, Hanson, MA 02341

May 2005 Special Town Meeting

Special Town Meeting
May 2, 2005

Moderator Charles W. Mann called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m. in the auditorium of the Middle School with James Armstrong, Stephen Amico and Robert Hayes appointed and sworn in to serve as tellers.

Town Counsel was Kathleen O'Donnell from the firm of Kopelman & Paige.

A quorum was present with 301 voters in attendance.

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from Free Cash to pay unpaid bills from previous fiscal years or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: There are a few unpaid bills from various departments, which were received after the end of fiscal year 2004. Requires a 9/10 vote.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer \$921.43 from Free Cash to pay unpaid bills from previous fiscal years.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 110, Other Tuition & Transportation May 2004 Annual Town Meeting and/or Free Cash and/or Additional Lottery Aid to be added to the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 31, Selectmen Expense of the May 2004 Annual Town Meeting or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: These funds are needed to cover the cost of law books and other office supplies.

Finance Committee recommends

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer \$1,000.00 from Free Cash to be added to the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 31, Selectmen Expense of the May 2004 Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 110, Other Tuition & Transportation May 2004 Annual Town Meeting and/or Free Cash to be added to the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 7, Town Benefits May 2004 Annual Town Meeting or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: These funds are a result of unanticipated increases in membership and in assessment to the Health Insurance costs.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer \$53,018.00 from Free Cash and \$59,982.00 from Additional Lottery Aid for a total of \$113,000.00 to be added to the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 7, Town Benefits May 2004 Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 110, Other Tuition & Transportation May 2004 Annual Town Meeting and/or Free Cash to be added to the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 14, Legal Expense May 2004 Annual Town Meeting or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: These funds are needed to cover the Legal expense for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer \$50,000.00 from Free Cash to be added to the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 14, Legal Expense of the May 2004 Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 110, Other Tuition & Transportation May 2004 Annual Town Meeting and/or Free Cash and/or Additional Lottery Aid to meet the expense of surveying and installing bounds in the Town Forest and Town owned cemeteries or take any other action in relation.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: These funds would be used to finalize the bounding of the Town Forest and commence the surveying and bounding of all Town owned cemeteries.

Finance Committee does not recommend this article.

VOTED Aye unanimous to Pass Over.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 110, Other Tuition & Transportation May 2004 Annual Town Meeting and/or Free Cash and/or Additional Lottery Aid to be added to the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 30, Selectmen Clerical Wages of the May 2004 Annual Town Meeting or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: These funds are needed to cover the overtime expense as a result of unanticipated sick time.

Finance Committee recommends

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer \$1,500.00 from Free Cash to be added to the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 30, Selectmen Clerical Wages of the May 2004 Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 110, Other Tuition & Transportation May 2004 Annual Town Meeting and/or Free Cash and/or Additional Lottery Aid to fund the purchase of memorials and commemorative markers throughout the Town or take any other action in relation thereto

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: The funds are requested to purchase permanent markers throughout the Town including but not limited to the Hanson Industrial Park for Robert C. Andrews and Conservation Area for Brian Gaffey.

Finance Committee recommends to pass over this article.

VOTED Aye unanimous to Pass Over.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 110, Other Tuition & Transportation May 2004 Annual Town Meeting and/or Free Cash and/or Additional Lottery Aid to be added to the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 20 Town Building Expenses of the May 2004 Annual Town Meeting or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: This transfer is requested to replenish the Town Building Expense line, which includes custodial supplies and maintenance repairs for the Town Hall, Senior Center and Library.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer \$1,500.00 from Free Cash to be added to the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 20 Town Building Expenses of the May 2004 Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 110, Other Tuition & Transportation of the May 2004 Annual Town Meeting and/or Free Cash and/or Additional Lottery Aid to be added to the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 12 Computers Expense of the 2004 Annual Town Meeting or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: This transfer is requested to cover the costs for computer services, repairs and upgrades as a result of the installation of the new police department server as well as technical support.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer \$12,000.00 from Free Cash to be added to the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 12, Computers Expense of the 2004 Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash a sum of money to be added to Article 16 of the 2001 May Special Town Meeting, Summer Band Concerts or take any action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: These funds will be used to fund the summer band concerts.

Finance Committee does not recommend this article.

VOTED Aye unanimous to Pass Over.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 110, Other Tuition & Transportation May 2004 Annual Town Meeting and/or Free Cash and/or Additional Lottery Aid to fund retirement buy-outs or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by Treasurer/Collector

Explanation: This will fund the Buy-Outs for employees as they retire (i.e. sick time, vacation, etc.)

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer \$25,000.00 from Free Cash to fund the retirement buy-out article.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash and or additional Lottery Aid a sum of money to be added to the amount appropriated in Article 5, Line 95, Town Gasoline of the May 2004, Annual Town Meeting or take any action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Highway Surveyor

Explanation: These funds are needed as a result of the increase in gasoline and diesel Fuel prices. The estimated amount of \$20,000.00 will cover the costs of fuel for Town Owned vehicles.

Finance Committee recommends

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$20,000.00 to be added to Article 5, Line 95, Town Gasoline of the May 2004, Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash and/or additional Lottery Aid a sum to be added to the amount appropriated in Article 5, Line 99, Street Sweeping of the May 2004, Annual Town Meeting or take any action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Highway Surveyor

Explanation: These funds are needed to pay a contractor to sweep the streets of the sand that was applied for snow and ice control. The Town of Hanson does not own a sweeper however one week per month we have access to the Tri-Town Sweeper (Towns of Hanson, Hanover, and Pembroke).

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$10,000.00 to be added to Article 5, Line 99, Street Sweeping of the May 2004, Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash and or additional Lottery Aid a sum of money to be added to the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 96, Highway Road Repair and Drainage of the May 2004, Annual Town Meeting or take any action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Highway Surveyor

Explanation: The funds are needed to purchase cold patch, hot patch and repair catch basins, due to the harsh winter we have just experienced.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,500.00 to be added to Article 5, Line 96, Highway Road Repair and Drainage of the May 2004, Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash and or additional Lottery Aid a sum of money for the maintenance and administrative fees associated with Storm Water Management or take any action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Highway Surveyor

Explanation: The funds are needed for administrative fees associated to the Storm Water Management low interest loan Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$2,000.00 for the maintenance and administrative fees associated with Storm Water Management.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash and or additional Lottery Aid a sum of money for purchasing and installing of five (5) windows at the Highway Department Building or take any action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Highway Surveyor

Explanation: The windows need to be replaced due to the fact that they are neither operable nor energy efficient.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$2,500.00 for purchasing and installing five windows at the Highway Department Building.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from free cash to be added to the amount appropriated in Article 5, Line 108, Fire Department Expense of the May 2004, Annual Town Meeting or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Fire Chief

Explanation: This is a place holding article to cover any unanticipated expenses. At this time, no funds are needed for this line.

Finance Committee does not recommend this article.

VOTED Aye unanimous to Pass Over.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from free cash to the amount appropriated in Article 5, Line 106, Firefighters Full-time Wage of the May 2004, Annual Town Meeting or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Fire Chief

Explanation: This is an article to cover overtime expense. At this time, I anticipate the amount \$14,000.00. This expense is a result of a number of severe snowstorms, requiring increased staffing and four firefighters being out on extended illness/injury.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer \$14,000.00 from Free Cash to the amount appropriated in Article 5, Line 106, Firefighters Full-time Wage of the May 2004, Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash and/or additional lottery aid, a sum of money to be added to the amount appropriated in Article 5, line 101, Police-Other Wages of the May 2004, Annual Town Meeting or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Police Chief

Explanation: These funds are necessary to meet the salary obligation for the balance of this fiscal year. An unanticipated career incentive payment, an extended injury/illness of an officer, increased court activity and several storm related incidents have negatively impacted the police-other wages line this fiscal year.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer from Free Cash , a sum of \$7,500.00 to be added to the amount appropriated in Article 5, line 101, Police-Other Wages of the May 2004, Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash and/or additional lottery aid, a sum of money to be added to the amount appropriated in Article 5, Line 102, Police Expense of the May 2004 Annual Town Meeting, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Propose by the Police Chief

Explanation: These funds are needed to cover the monthly charges for the police department for expenses for the balance of this fiscal year. Several unanticipated major repairs to police cruisers and the failure/replacement of the database fire-wall have negatively impacted the police expense budget this fiscal year.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$4,500.00 to be added to the amount appropriated in Article 5, Line 102, Police Expense of the May 2004 Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash and/or available funds a sum of money to complete roadway modifications of Washington West Meadows Phase II recorded at the Registry of Deeds, Plan No. 29 of 1997, and recorded in Book 39, Page 726.

Proposed by the Planning Board

Explanation: On November 2, 1998 the Planning Board acquired the performance surety bond of this subdivision because the contractor chose not to complete the subdivision and infrastructure in accordance with the approved plan. Estimated cost \$10,000

Finance Committee recommends to pass over.

VOTED Aye unanimous to pass over.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash and from the amounts appropriated in Article 21 of the May 2004 Special Town Meeting for the Triennial recertification of the Town's Real Estate and Personal Property valuations, as required by Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 797, Acts of 1979, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Assessors

Explanation: M.G.L. requires that valuations be re-certified every three (3) years. All building schedules, land tables, depreciation tables, etc. are recalculated according to the current real estate market. New income and expense figures are adopted by on the current commercial/industrial market.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer \$42,500.00 from Free Cash and \$7,500.00 from Article 21 of the May 2004 Special Town Meeting for the Triennial recertification of the Town's Real Estate and Personal Property valuations, as required by Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 797, Acts of 1979.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the amount appropriated to Article 5, Line 110, Other Tuition & Transportation May 2004 Annual Town Meeting and/or Free Cash for the clean up, handicapped accessibility and design layout of the waterfront of Maquan Pond subject to the receipt of a grant from Fields Pond Foundation or take any other action in relation thereto

Proposed by the Hanson Recreation Commission

Explanation: These funds will only be expended if the Recreation Department receives grant funds for the clean up, handicapped accessibility and design layout of the waterfront of Maquan Pond.

Finance Committee does not recommend this article.

VOTED Aye unanimous to Pass Over.

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Wage and personnel By-Laws, Article 2-12, Classification and

Compensation by deleting Sections 11A through 11E in its entirety and inserting the new Sections 11A through 11E as printed below:

Wage & Personnel 2006 Recommendations

SECTION 11 A: PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

7/1/04 7/1/05

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| • Director of Elder Affairs | 32,000 to 48,500 | 35,000 to 55,000 |
| • Town Accountant | 40,000 to 60,000 | 45,000 to 65,000 |
| • Treasurer/Collector | 40,000 to 60,000 | 45,000 to 65,000 |
| • Inspectors of Building | 35,000 to 55,000 | 40,000 to 60,000 |
| • Health Agent | 35,000 to 55,000 | 40,000 to 60,000 |

SECTION 11 B: ADMINSTRATIVE AND/OR FULL TIME

7/1/04 7/1/05

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| • Executive Assistant | 15.00 to 24.00 | 18.00 to 25.00 |
| • Assistant to Police Chief | 15.00 to 22.00 | 17.00 to 23.00 |
| • Veterans Agent | 7,480 to 12,421 yr | 7,904 to 12,794 yr |
| • Reference Librarian | 16.48 to 22.66 | 16.97 to 23.34 |
| • Youth Service Librarian | 16.48 to 22.66 | 16.97 to 23.34 |
| • Animal Control Officer | 12.57 to 14.65 | 12.95 to 15.09 |
| • Van Drivers/Aide | 8.24 to 13.11 | 8.49 to 13.50 |
| • Social Day Care Coordinator* | 14.42 to 17.48 | 14.85 to 18.00 |

I. Camp Kiwanee Caretaker	530.45 wk.	546.36 wk.
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SECTION 11 C: PART TIME POSITIONS

7/1/04 7/1/05

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|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| A. Assistant Inspector of Building | 13.39 to 17.83 | 13.79 to 18.36 |
| B. Gas Inspector | 13.39 to 17.83 | 13.79 to 18.36 |
| C. Plumbing Inspector | 13.39 to 17.83 | 13.79 to 18.36 |
| D. Wiring Inspector | 13.39 to 17.83 | 13.79 to 18.36 |
| E. Civil Defense Director | 960 to 1,114 yr | 988 to 1,147 yr |
| F. Police Matron | 8.53 to 10.15 | 8.79 to 10.95 |
| G. Outreach/Seniors* | 11.33 to 17.31 | 11.67 to 17.83 |
| H. Assistant Coordinator* | 8.24 to 12.99 | 8.49 to 13.38 |
| I. Volunteer Services | | |
| Intergenerational Coordinator* | 9.79 to 14.62 | 10.08 to 15.06 |
| J. Community Recreation Coordinator | 9.21 | 9.49 |
| K. Volunteer Driver* | 25.00 per day stipend | 25.00 per day |
| L. Animal Inspector | 1,056 to 1,294 | 1,088 to 1,333 |
| M. Election Clerk | 8.49 hr | 8.74 hr |

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| • Election Officer | 8.23 hr | 8.48 hr |
| • Election Warden | 9.02 hr | 9.29 hr |
| • Registrar of Voters | 8.27 to 10.30 | 8.52 to 10.61 |
| • Assistant Caretaker** | 8.24 to 14.71 | 8.49 to 15.15 |
| • Sealer of Weights & Measurers | 2,627.00 yr | 2,708.00 yr |
| • Milk Inspector | 144 to 174 yr | 148 to 179 yr |
| • Assistant Veterans Agent | 9.90 to 12.49 | 10.20 to 12.86 |

U.	Finance Comm. Secretary	8.87 to 10.88	9.14 to 11.21
V.	Emergency Clerical Labor	8.87 to 10.88	9.14 to 11.21

SECTION 11D: SEASONAL POSITIONS

	<u>7/1/04</u>	<u>7/1/05</u>
A. Beach Director	12.26 hr	12.63 hr
B. Water Safety Instructor	10.04 hr	10.34 hr
C. Lifeguards	8.92 hr	9.19 hr
D. Boat Coordinator	8.10 hr	8.34 hr
E. Boating Instructor	14.71 hr	15.15 hr
F. Concession Worker	Fed. Min	Fed Min
G. Recreation Assistant	Fed Min	Fed Min
H. Security	12.97 hr.	13.36 hr

*Positions are funded through the Multi-Service Senior Center's revolving account or grants

** Positions are funded through the Recreation Commission's revolving account.

SECTION 11E: CALL FIREFIGHTERS/OFFICERS

	<u>7/1/04</u>	<u>7/1/05</u>
First year Call Firefighters	Tours 13.76 hr	14.17 hr
Drills	12.30 hr.	12.67 hr
Details	20.65 hr.	21.27 hr
First year Call EMT	Tours 14.50 hr.	14.94 hr
Drills	13.02 hr	13.41 hr
Details	20.65 hr	21.27 hr
Second year Call Firefighters	Tours 14.50 hr.	14.94 hr
Drills	13.02 hr	13.41 hr
Details	20.65 hr	21.27 hr
Second year Call EMT	Tours 15.21 hr	15.67 hr
Drills	13.76 hr.	14.17 hr
Details	22.95 hr.	23.61 hr
Call Lieutenants	Tours 15.95 hr.	16.43 hr
Drills	14.50 hr.	14.94 hr
Details	23.92 hr.	24.64 hr
Call Lieutenants EMT	Tours 16.69 hr.	17.19 hr
Drills	15.21 hr.	15.67 hr
Details	25.01 hr.	25.76 hr

\$500.00 stipend will be paid in June of each fiscal year to those call firefighters who successfully complete and maintain the certification of an EMT recognized by the State and approved by the Fire Chief. Paramedics will receive a \$1,000.00 stipend Or take any other action thereto

Proposed by Wage & Personnel

Explanation: This article is voted yearly to set the ranges for Wage & Personnel employees.

Finance Committee refers to Town Meeting.

VOTED Aye, voice to amend the Wage and Personnel By-Laws, Article 2-12, Classification and Compensation by deleting Sections 11A through 11E in its entirety and inserting the new Sections 11A through 11E as printed in the warrant.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to rescind the remaining borrowing authorization in the amount of \$35,000.00 under the vote of the Town passed October 4, 1999 (Article 5), which vote originally authorized a borrowing of \$985,000 for the acquisition of the land formerly known as the Plymouth County Hospital campus for open space and other municipal purposes; or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: This is a housekeeping article, which is necessary to remove the remaining balance of \$35,000.00, which appears as authorized and un-issued debt against the Town. Town meeting approved borrowing \$985,000 at the October 1999 Special Town Meeting for the purchase of the Plymouth County Hospital property, however the final purchase price was actually \$950,000.00.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye, voice to rescind the remaining borrowing authorization in the amount of \$35,000.00 under the vote of the Town passed October 4, 1999 (Article 5), which vote originally authorized a borrowing of \$985,000 for the acquisition of the land formerly known as the Plymouth County Hospital campus for open space and other municipal purposes;

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to allow an increase in the exemption amount granted to certain elderly taxpayers as allowed in MGL Chapter 59, Section 5 Clause 41C.

Proposed by the Board of Assessors

Explanation: Currently, certain elderly taxpayers are granted a \$500.00 annual exemption from property taxes, if they meet certain income and asset limits. An annual exemption of \$750.00 is proposed.

Finance Committee refers to Town Meeting.

VOTED Aye unanimous Article 26 as printed in the warrant.

VOTED Aye, voice to dissolve the meeting at 8:25.p.m.

A true copy of the vote, Attest:

Sandra E. Harris, CMC, CMMC
Town Clerk